

bunched, listed and decided. 1105 Wealth Tax References have been bunched, listed and decided.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Specific measures taken by the Department to reduce litigation in assessment and collection of tax are enumerated below:-

1. To clarify various legal issues and to reduce avoidable litigation, circulars are issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes at the time of introduction of the various provisions and also subsequently.
2. Directions have been issued to make prima-facie adjustment u/s. 143(1) (a) only on those issues on which no two views are possible.
3. A very small percentage of returns are taken up for scrutiny.
4. Continuous efforts are being made to simplify law so that there is less and less scope for litigation. Consequently presumptive taxation of income (u/s. 44AD and 44AE) have been enacted. An Expert Group has been set up to rationalise and simplify the Income Tax Act in entirety. The report of the Group has been submitted.
5. To avoid repetitive appeals on identical question of law pending before High Court or Supreme Court, a new Chapter XIV A prescribing procedure for avoiding repetitive appeal has been introduced with effect from 1.4.84.
6. Instructions have been issued to field formations not to engage in unnecessary litigations and accept appellate decisions of Commissioners of Income-Tax (Appeals) unless the findings are perverse. Monthly review of a percentage of appeals filed before Income Tax Appellate tribunal by the Chief Commissioners of Income-Tax/Directors General of Income-Tax has also been prescribed.

Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.

3281. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the loss to Neyveli Lignite Corporation due to water wall punctures in energy production in Thermal Power Station-II;

(b) the fuel oil consumption per kwh in TPS-I and II during 1996-97 and how does it compare with the normal consumption standard;

(c) the details of production loss to Neyveli Lignite Corporation due to flooding during the last three years;

(d) the recommendations of the Experts Committee in this regard; and

(e) the action taken to deal with the problem effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The loss to Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. (NLC) due to water wall puncture in energy production in Thermal Station II is 243.369 Million Units for the year 1996-97.

(b) A comparative statement with the normal consumption standard (CEA norms) and actual consumption for the year 1996-97 for Thermal Station I and Thermal Station II is furnished below upto 28th February, 1997:-

(in ml/Kwhr)

Thermal Station I		Thermal Station II	
Standard	Actual	Standard	Actual
3.00	3.189	5.00	2.91

(c) The production loss to NLC due to flooding during last three years is as under:

	TPS	MINES
1994-95	Nil	Nil
1995-96	Nil	Nil
1996-97	177.764 m.u.	3.75 lakh tonnes

(d) As the flooding in both the Mines was only due to incessant and copious rains and not due to any inrush of water from the outer area, the Expert Committee recommended raising and widening the bund levels inside the Mines and housing the ground water pumps and the connected electrical installations at a higher level.

(e) Action was taken on a war footing to restore the Mines back to normalcy by increasing the pumping capacity wherever possible.

Changes in Newsprint Policy

3282. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made some changes in the policy of newsprint in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons for change; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure good quality newsprint and paper for printing text books, news etc.?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government have taken following steps:-

(i) 10% customs duty on import of newsprint has been imposed since 29.10.1996.